

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

Dawn Forbes DiStefano
Michelle Goncalves
Patricia Hallberg

Gabrielle Jackson
Tara Marshall
Jacqueline Velez

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
Jennifer Metsch
Lizzy Oritz
Shanique Spalding
2021 APR -6 A 8:44

TOWN OF LUDLOW

April 8, 2021

Dear Sir or Madam:

Let this serve as a notice pursuant to Open Meeting Law, M.G.L.c. 30A sections 18-25 of a meeting of the Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls (HCCSWG).

On April 25, 2017, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women inaugurated nine commissioners to a newly formed regional commission created to study and report the status of women and girls in Hampden County. The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is "a state-established body charged with reviewing the status of women in Massachusetts and offering recommendations regarding policy that would improve access to opportunities and equality." The regional commissions have been created to target specific geographical regions to make sure that the needs of women across the state are met.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 8, 2021, from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. In light of current public health recommendations for social distancing and state restrictions around public gatherings, and in observance of the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Required Provisions of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c.30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020), this meeting will take place online at:

<https://zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSikwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT09>

Attendees are asked to contact hccswg@gmail.com in advance of the meeting to receive the meeting password.

This meeting is open to the public, and we encourage members of the community to attend. The first fifteen minutes of the meeting will be set aside for members of the public to present anything they wish the Commission to consider. Anyone who wishes to speak during this allotted time should email the HCCSWG Chairperson, Gabrielle Jackson, at HCCSWG@gmail.com with their intention so the HCCSWG may plan accordingly. Members of the public will only be recognized by the Commission to speak during the opening public presentation segment, and only if prior notice is provided.

Sincerely,

Tara Marshall
Secretary, HCCSWG

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Agenda

April 8, 2021

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkOT09>

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2021 APR -6 A 8:45

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Please contact hccswg@gmail.com for the meeting password

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Discussion with our featured guest, Dr. Neena Qasba, Baystate Wesson Women's Clinic
- III. Public Speak Out (15 min.)
- IV. Approval of minutes from March 11, 2021
- V. Chair Report
- VI. Vice-Chair Report
- VII. **Old Business**
 - a. **Women's History Month Follow Up and Celebration**
 - b. **Coffee Chat Winter Events Updates**
 - i. Collaboration with Hampshire-Franklin
 - ii. Spring/Summer Coffee Chats

Commissioner	Gabrielle	Pattie	Tara	Michelle	Shanique	Jen	Jackie		Dawn
Topic:					Legislative Updates	Essay Contest High Tea with the Commissioner.			C Suite with the CEO
Chat Date						May			
Zoom Link									

VIII. **New Business**

- a. EqualPayMA Roundtable Series

- i. Shaitia is looking for speakers for our Mother's Equal Pay Day Conversation on **May 12th at 11:00am.**

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2021 APR -6 A 8:45

TOWN OF LUDLOW

b. Policy Discussion

- i. Planning for Legislative Breakfast
- ii. Legislation that we would like to support
- iii. Springfield Municipal Events:
 - 1. Nonpartisan
 - 2. Partner with an organization that is doing forums.
 - a. Partner with women.
 - b. Candidate forum
 - c. Ready to Run - Training series
 - d. Virtual Trainings

c. Internship Program

d. Meeting Dates

- i. May 13th - Shaitia Spruell
- ii. June 10th - Danella Clarke?
 - 1. Can use this meeting to close the session July 31st.
 - 2. Talk about the Juneteenth - Uplift a person of color.

e. Swearing in of recommended Commissioner, Jacqueline Velez

IX. MCSW Events

a. Semi-Annual Convening of the Regional Commissions (Action Item)

- i. Two dates have been identified for the next Regional Commission Convening - Monday, May 24th and Tuesday, May 25th. Please complete the poll by Monday, March 8th at 5pm: <https://www.when2meet.com/?11226761-GUmgT>. Based on the Regional Commissioner responses, the date and time of the Convening will be confirmed on Tuesday, March 9th during the Program and Planning Committee meeting.

b. Virtual Advocacy Day - Advocacy Day will be held on May 19th. More details to come.

c. Commonwealth Heroines

- i. This afternoon we will be opening up the recommendation form for the Commonwealth Heroines Class of 2021. Each year the Commission partners with state legislators to identify women who make outstanding contributions to their organizations and communities. Each legislator is encouraged to submit one woman from their constituency as a means of recognizing their invaluable community efforts. This submission form will be open for legislators until Monday, April 5, 2021. For more information, please visit the links below:

- ii. [Commonwealth Heroine Program Book 2020](#)

iii. Commonwealth Heroine 2021 Work Plan

d. Adjournment

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2021 APR -6 A 8:45

TOWN OF LUDLOW

About Our Featured Guest:

Dr. Neena Qasba is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist with subspecialty training in Complex Family Planning and an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate. She completed her OBGYN training at Indiana University and completed her fellowship at Yale University. She also earned a M.P.H. in Health Policy and Management at Yale University. She is interested in policy implementation science and her current research focuses on the area of reproductive health. She currently serves as the Medical Director of Wesson Women's Clinic at Baystate Medical Center, which provides comprehensive OB/GYN health services and specialty services for the local community and serves as regional referral center. She focuses her time on process and quality improvement using a health equity perspective.